

Quarterly Issues and Programming Report

July 2010 thru September 2010

WTNH/News8

1. Community Issues
2. Health
3. Education
4. Crime
5. Consumer Issues
6. Government, economy, and law

Community Issues:

July:

7/05/10: Good Morning CT 5am - :30 **"New Haven Boy Shot Followup"**

The New Haven community is also coming together to support an 11 year old boy who was shot by a stray bullet last week. Joseph Crudup was injured last week. Over the weekend neighbors met in front of his home to speak out against violence. He also got some gifts from New Haven Family Alliance and the Pop-Warner Football team. He got a new bike because *his* was stolen.. a pair of football cleats and some gift certificates.

7/10/10: Good Morning CT Weekend - :30 **"Shoreline Out and About"**

When veterans come home from war overseas... it is important that they get the welcome they deserve. The Veterans of Foreign Wars -- better known as VFW -- is a place where they can go to get the services they need. But in Guilford, the VFW building has fallen into disrepair... and desperately needs funding to get back on its feet. That's where a great summer concert fundraiser comes in. Joining us this morning to tell us about VetsFest 2010 Edwin Bartlett from Shoreline Out and About.

VetsFest 2010

July 24th

Noon - 10 PM

Martin Bishop (Fireman's) Field

Guilford

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For more ... Log onto our website at wtnh.com and click on the good morning connecticut weekend section.

7/12/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :40 **"Homeless Grants"**

More than 1-point-2 million dollars in federal money.. is going to help the homeless in Connecticut. Housing authorities, shelters and community service groups in 10 communities are splitting the cash. The money is intended to help homeless people find housing and get other help. It'll benefit homeless veterans, victims of domestic violence and people living with severe mental illness.

7/22/10: News 8 at 12pm - :24

"Bridgeport Crime Meeting"

It's been a violent few weeks in Bridgeport and Mayor Bill Finch wants to get people together to talk about it. He's inviting people to a community forum tonight. Over the weekend three people were shot to death at two of the city's public housing complexes. Last week a store clerk was shot and killed. There have already been 16 homicides so far this year. The community forum begins at 5:30 this evening...at Bridgeport's City Hall Annex.

August:

8/06/10: News 8 at 12pm - :25

"NH Back to School Rally"

The idea that the new school year is right around the corner... is likely something a lot of kids probably don't want to hear. Even though it's still the middle of summer... the bell to start up classes again is only three weeks away. For the third year in a row, W-Y-B-C radio and the Tom Joyner morning show held a back to school rally at the Hillhouse High School in New Haven today. There was a lot of information for parents and children about making the transition back to school a little easier. Hundreds of students and parents took advantage of the rally which included games and giveaways ... even a thousand dollar scholarship being awarded to one lucky student.

8/08/10: Good Morning CT Weekend - :15

"Candlelight Vigil"

A candlelight vigil is taking place today... remembering the victims killed last week in Manchester. News 8's Marc Robbins live in Manchester this morning... at Center Memorial Park with details about the event. Good Morning Annie. The healing process for so many will continue today.. There will be a Community Vigil here at Center Park in Manchester for the 8 victims of Tuesday's Shootings at the Hartford Distributors. There were funerals for 4 of the victims yesterday and in the next couple of days, services are set for 3 more. 49 year Old Edward Kennison will be remembered during calling hours at the Tierney Funeral Home in Manchester today from 2 to 6pm. The Funeral service will take place Monday at St James Church in Manchester. A Mass for 51 Year Old William Ackerman of East Windsor will take place Monday at 11 am at St. Francis of Assis Church in Windsor. Francis Fazio of Bristol will be remembered during a mass, Tuesday at St. Stanislas Church in Bristol Calling house will be Monday from 4 to 8 at the Dunn Funeral Home in Bristol. And tonight, Organizers are asking everyone to bring chairs and blankets.. Candles will be provided.. The vigil is set to begin at 7:30pm

8/19/10: Good Morning CT 5am – 1:50

"NH Community Canvass"

New This Morning... New Haven leaders want to hear from you...about concerns you have in the Elm City. But don't shoot an email or pick up the phone. They're coming to your hood. New Haven leaders are hitting neighborhoods to hear concerns. The \$64,000 question the Mayor has for you is : how can we help you? And he's asking that to residents of two parts of town tonight - as staff members and department heads of city hall go out with the mayor and find out the main issues, concerns, and overall feelings of his constituents. It's called Community Canvas, and tonight, Mayor Destefano will be here in Wooster Square - while other leaders will be in East Rock - checking in , from 6-8 pm. City officials say they're starting with these areas, ward 8 and 9 because of their close proximity to city hall. It's the first time city leaders have done this since 2005. And they say, they expect to continue this semi-new - semi-returning program, in the coming weeks as they hit other parts of town.

September:

9/02/10: News 8 at 12pm - :30

"Bridgeport Gun Buyback"

The gun buyback program has started in Bridgeport. Here's how it works. If you turn in a gun, you get a free card. The program started at 10 this morning at the Police Community Services Division on Sylvan Avenue. It will continue until they run out of giftcards. The goal is to make the streets of the Park City safer.

9/08/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :30

"9/11 Blood Drive"

On Friday September 10th the American Red Cross and News 8 will sponsor a blood drive, remembering 9-11. That's taking place at the High Plains Community Center on Orange Center Road in Orange. The info is there in your screen. Call 1-800-Red-Cross if you'd like to make an appointment... and roll up your sleeve... top help out.

9/21/10: News 8 at 5pm - :30

"NH School Supply Donation"

Students at New Haven's Hillhouse High School are filling their backpacks with new pens, pencils and notebooks today. The kids got brand new school supplies -- collected by employees with Yale-New Haven Health Systems over the last several weeks. The adults say there's a lesson here -- 'we're all in this together'. The workers collected more than 21-thousand supplies -- this is the first time they've ever donated to a New Haven public high school.

Health:

July:

7/03/10: Good Morning CT Weekend - :45

"Grilling Safety"

In health news this morning... staying safe -- and out of the emergency room this Fourth of July. We tell you about the dangers of fireworks every year but there's also a lot to keep in mind while flipping burgers and cooking hot dogs on the grill. By all means, relax with your family and friends this weekend... but don't relax your guard on basic safety around the grill. Nothing says the Fourth of July like the aroma of a fired-up grill, but experts warn all outdoor chefs to be careful when working with the flame. Many residential fires occur because of outdoor cooking appliances, so keep an eye on the grill at all times and always keep control of the flame. The National Fire Protection Association recommends checking for cracks, leaks and brittleness before lighting up the grill, and always keep the grill at least 10 feet away from houses and trees. When cooking, do not wear loose clothing that could catch on fire and always use long-handled utensils or flame resistant mitts. When handing your food, be sure to use a clean platter when transferring raw and cooked meat in order to avoid cross contamination and food-borne illnesses. As a rule, keep hot foods hot. After meat and poultry have been cooked, keep it at 140 degrees or warmer until served. And cold foods, such as raw meat, should be refrigerated until it is time to start cooking.

7/05/10: News 8 at 5pm - :35

"School Obesity"

Can public schools make a difference in a child's health? According to researchers... the answer is yes. If schools have strong P-E programs and healthier lunches, their students seem to benefit. Researchers looked at how school-based interventions could cut the risk of type-2 diabetes in kids from high risk populations. Half of the 42 schools adopted healthy nutrition guidelines, including healthy food offerings and more P-E time... the other half did not. At the end of the

study, children at intervention schools kept their weight down, lowered their sugar levels and cut their body fat.

7/15/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :35

"Measles Alert"

An alert this morning from the state department of Public Health -- You may have been exposed to Measles. Well.. a few of you may have been exposed -- if you were on the one o'clock "Cross Sound Ferry" from New London, to Orient Point, New York on July 7th. Health officials in New York say at least one person on that boat had the measles. You're also at risk if you stayed at the Hilton Garden Inn on Old Country Road in Riverhead, New York from July 7th to July 9th.

7/23/10: News 8 at 5pm - :35

"Sleeping with Pets"

Man's best friend is often a great sleeping companion for some people, but experts say that owners should weigh the pros and cons-- before getting into bed with their pets. Dogs and cats can create a sense of safety and comfort for people, allowing them a better night's sleep. The rhythmic heart beat and breathing from the animal can also help a person fall asleep. But pet dander, pet hair, and dirt in the bed can trigger allergies. If you have allergies and asthma... doctors say you should not allow your pets in the bed... or even the bedroom. That's so -- your body can get a few hours of recovery from the allergic reaction. Now if you don't want to kick your pet out -- you may be able to get allergy shots-- to help build a tolerance.

August:

8/01/10: Good Morning CT 5am -- 1:30

"Breastfeeding Importance"

Studies have shown that breastfeeding is better for both mom and baby... but not all women do it. News 8's Jocelyn Maminta has more now on how medical experts are worried about this new trend. "Can you open your eyes and say hi?" At three days old -- Calista Potkay can barely keep her eyes open. But when it comes to breastfeeding -- "latched on easily.." her Mom says she's already a pro. Christine Potkay says breast feeding was an easy choice. She also breastfed Calista's older sister well aware of its benefits for a newborn ... "of the baby getting the immunities and all the antibodies from me. I didn't feel so concerned if we were out and someone sneezed because I felt like I was breast feeding and so she was going to get protection from me." But not everyone chooses to breast feed. And that-- has lactation consultants at Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital -- concerned. Robin Murtha says -- not breastfeeding -- carries a number of health risks for a baby. "For healthy newborns in developed countries, the risk of not breast feeding can be increased rates of ear infection, increased rates of eczema, asthma, obesity, type 1 and type 2 diabetes." Breastfeeding a baby -- is a natural biological process -- from which mothers can also benefit. "have a reduced risk of things like breast cancer, diabetes themselves, and other cancers. Heart disease is the latest research." For working mothers like Carla Giles -- breastfeeding and pumping milk is a balancing act. "The benefits really outweighs so much of that and you want to give the best to your child and so I work it, I make it work." It's a bond that carries with it -- a long lasting impact.

8/10/10: Good Morning CT 5am - :30

"Nicotine Vaccine Trial"

Doctors say nicotine is more addictive than heroin. It's a hard habit to kick but you could soon get help from a vaccine. Researchers at Yale University's School of Medicine are testing the nicotine vaccine called NicVAX. Nicotine Molecules are small but the vaccine helps the body build antibodies that make nicotine too large to enter the brain. Dr. O'Malley - "what the vaccine is trying to do is really reduce the amount of nicotine that makes it into the brain and that's what stimulates pleasurable effects and maintain addiction. It's a study that's going to help us look at whether the nicotine vaccine will help people quit smoking." To be eligible for the nicotine vaccine

study -- you must smoke at least 10 cigarettes a day and visit the clinic 20 times in one year. For more information You can also log onto our website and click on health.

8/26/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :45

"Young Melanoma"

Health news this morning... you're never too young for cancer. But here's a sobering statistic: Melanoma, is the most common form of cancer for young adults ages 25 to 29. This type of skin cancer can be deadly... but early detection and treatment can save lives. Knowing what to look out for is critical. You have to catch it before it spreads to the lymph nodes... and get it cut out. If not survival rates dramatically drop. A tiny freckle can change color, shape and size...quickly. A means assymetry of the mole ... B means the borders are irregular ... C means the color is something other than brown ... D is the diameter of a mole that's larger than the small moles you usually see ... And E means evolving. These cancers can come from existing moles... but also from normal skin.

September:

9/01/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :44

"Supersized Servings"

Health news this morning... if you think you're being good by choosing the regular sized portion when you treat yourself at your favorite fast food joint think again. That bagel or burger you grab is probably already super-size and you don't realize it. Findings reported in this month's issue of "Nutrition Action Health Letter" point out... a lot of choices on the menu are larger than recommended. A couple examples... at places like Au Bon Pain... and Panera Bread... bagels are typically four ounces. The FDA calls a bagel serving two ounces. The government also says the serving side for a burger is five ounces. You can get that if you buy the Burger King Whopper Junior or McDonald's hamburger or cheeseburger. The Big Mac weighs in about 7 ounces and the Angus Deluxe about 11.

9/11/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :30

"Colon Cancer Women"

Another weight study shows carrying excess weight in the waist and hips is also not good for women. A new study from the American Association for Cancer Research shows it could increase an older woman's risk of dying from colon cancer. Healthy seniors who maintained a normal weight before getting diagnosed were more likely to survive. Women whose waists were 37 inches or larger had a 34 percent increased risk of dying from colon cancer than women with smaller waists of 32 inches or less..

9/22/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :30

"Napping Tips"

Health news this morning you're probably just waking up but that may not stop you from wanting a nap in just a couple hours. If you can squeeze one into your busy day... experts say its okay for adults to grab a little extra rest. A daily nap can help you feel more relaxed and rested. These napping tips are from the National Sleep Foundation. Here are a few things to keep in mind. A nap should last no longer than 30 minutes. Nap in an environment that's cool.... dark and quiet. Plus, don't nap too late in the day because this could interfere with bedtime.

Education:

July:

7/08/10: News 8 at 5pm - :20

"Education Standards"

The state Board of Education is breaking with tradition and adopting national standards to measure students in Connecticut. Traditionally, Connecticut has left those standards up to local school boards. The idea is to make it easier for kids to keep up with their studies if they move to other states and it will make it easier for colleges to compare applicants.

7/16/10: News 8 at 5pm - :20

"CAP Test Results"

The CAPT scores are out and they show modest gains in math, science and writing among Connecticut's 10th graders. The scores reveal students from low-income homes are making the most progress. Districts use results to track the progress of schools to see if they are meeting goals.

7/20/10: News 8 at 5pm - :50

"School Surveys"

A mixed bag of results from New Haven students and parents on the state of the city's schools. Earlier this year the district sent surveys home to teachers, parents and students looking for some feedback. Now the results are in. Over all, the marks were good, but when you break it down, there's a big difference between the city's best and worst schools. When it comes to safety... everyone agrees schools like Worthington-Hooker, Columbus and John C. Daniels are safe, but at Wexler Grant, only 42 percent of students and 22 percent of teachers feel safe. Parents and teachers were also asked if they would recommend their school. Topping that list among parents ... the Enginerring and Science school and the Sound School. Brennan Rogers and Wexler Grant come in at the bottom. PARENTS WOULD RECOMMEND: Engineering & Science 97%, Sound School 97%, Brennan Rogers 58% and Wexler Grant 48%. For teachers Edgewood and Worthington Hooker top their recommendation list. Beecher and Wexler Grant are at the bottom. TEACHERS WOULD RECOMMEND: Edgewood 95%, Worthington Hooker 93%, Beecher 6% and Wexler-Grant 4%.

7/28/10: News 8 at 12pm - :20

"No CT Education Money"

For the second time, Connecticut has tried and failed to get a piece of some federal education money being offered by the Obama administration. The U-S education department has announced Connecticut will NOT be one of the 19 state finalists in the second round of the "Race to the top" education initiative.

August:

8/10/10: Good Morning CT at 6am - :45

"College Transition"

You've heard about the Freshmen 15... but there's a lot more to adjusting to college life... than just the food and diet. If you have a son or daughter getting ready to leave for college for the first time... you want to help them ease that transition. Each college may have their own suggestions... but here's some advice from experts at Ryerson University in Toronto. For students, first off stay positive and relax. Other new students are experiencing the same thing you're going through. Remember, even though everything is new and exciting you need to make classes and

assignments your priority. For parents, continue to offer support through changes in your child... in everything from changes in clothing style, to the level of academic success, and interests. Something kids may appreciate... expert advice for parents ... Don't surprise your child with un-announced visits.

8/12/10: News 8 at 12pm - :27

"Strip Search Settlement"

There has been a settlement in a case we first told you about nearly two years ago. Four students are getting more than 27-thousand dollars each after two Ansonia teachers strip-searched them for money. The searches happened at the Pine Academy, an alternative education facility housed in the Shelton Boys and Girls club building. A teacher had said 70 dollars was taken from her pocketbook, but the cash was never found. The students claimed the incidents left them humiliated and embarrassed.

8/29/10: News 8 at 11pm - :20

"Back to School Stats"

It's back to school time. School buses across the state will be hitting the roads again. More than 585-thousand students are soon kicking off the 2010-2011 academic year. Education officials say most state schools are reopening tomorrow and Tuesday. Seven school districts reopened last week.

8/31/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :25

"Education Grants"

Some education leaders in our state... are protesting the Obama administration's practice of making states compete for federal education grants. The Connecticut Coalition for Public Education says the federal "Race to the Top" program does not serve the state's poorest students. The group sent a letter to President Obama and the state's congressional delegation. They don't like the U-S Department of Education's policy of using competitive grants to urge innovation and change.

September:

9/02/10: Good Morning CT 5am - :15

"NH Schoolbus Safety"

New Haven police are making school bus safety a top priority this school year. Police Chief Frank Ilmon and his assistant chiefs will be taking the big yellow bus this afternoon. They are going to talk to students at the Roberto Clemente Leadership Academy about bus safety.

9/07/10: News 8 at 5pm - :25

"SCSU Drinking Fines"

A couple of Universities here in Connecticut are making students pay some Hefty fines. News 8's Annie Rourke is on the scene at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven with more. They're cracking down on college drinking, here at Southern and at Western, if you're underage and you're caught drinking, it's gonna cost you. A new policy's in place to curb campus drinking. And now, it's not good for your wallet either at Southern Connecticut State University and at Western.. if you have alcohol and you're not 21.. you'll be written up.. and given a fine.. the first offense.. 136-dollars. There are other incentives not to partake in the party scene.. if underclassmen are caught drinking.. they'll also have to go for counseling and take drug and alcohol education classes. Plus, half the campus is now dry.. so even if you're of age.. you can't have alcohol in designated dorms. It's all in response to an increase in alcohol-related incidents last year.. so they're hoping to start this year.. with a sobering message.. one that could cost you.

9/21/10: News 8 at 11pm – 1:00

“Cheshire Band Honor”

Royal honors for a local high school marching band ... Her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth- the second wants the Cheshire High School band and orchestra to take part in a celebration in London. Instead of sending an invitation she sent a personal representative all the way from Buckingham Palace to ask the students to take part in London's 2012 New Year's Day Parade. Organizers of the parade are inviting just 8 bands from the U.S. Cheshire is the only one from Connecticut. But, the trick is getting there. They need to raise 450-thousand dollars and the Board of Education has to approve the trip first. If you want to help out, you'll find a link on our website; WTNH.com.

Crime:

July:

7/02/10: News 8 at 5pm - :20

“Middletown Crime Sweep”

In Middletown... police hit the streets in force -- and picked up 11 suspected criminals. It was a joint effort from local and state police, and the D-E-A -- called "Operation Expanded Shield". Police say Andre Allen was among those arrested -- they found him with 12-hundred dollars in cash... and 2-thousand dollars worth of crack cocaine. We're expecting to get the names of other people arrested sometime today. One other note -- this operation didn't cost the city a penny. Cops changed their schedules... and did not charge for overtime.

7/14/10: News 8 at 11pm - :20

“West Haven Community Policing”

West Haven residents got a chance to voice concerns this evening about crime and neighborhood safety. The police department held a community meeting to talk about its push to increase community policing. Folks in the Allintown neighborhood got a chance to meet community resource officers assigned to patrol their streets. The police department recently opened two substations as part of the community policing program.

7/22/10: News 8 at 12pm - :24

“Bridgeport Crime Meeting”

It's been a violent few weeks in Bridgeport.. and Mayor Bill Finch wants to get people together to talk about it. He's inviting people to a community forum tonight. Over the weekend three people were shot to death at two of the city's public housing complexes. Last week a store clerk was shot and killed. There have already been 16 homicides so far this year. The community forum begins at 5:30 this evening...at Bridgeport's City Hall Annex.

7/24/10: Good Morning CT 5am - :30

“NH Wooster Square Crime”

A small victory for a New haven Neighborhood 'Watch group' worried about crime on their streets. The city is installing *lights*on the Court Street Bridge. For months... people living in the Wooster Square neighborhood have been pushing for the lights, to improve safety. Many people were afraid to cross the bridge at night because it was so dark. There have been muggings and car break ins there. Neighbors are happy about the new lights. The lights will be solar. They should be completely installed by next week.

August:

8/01/10: News 8 at 6pm Weekend - :25

"Windsor Mobile Robbery"

The search goes on for a thief who held up a gas station in Windsor. Police say the man in this surveillance picture robbed the Mobile Gas station on Poquonock Road Friday night. Police say the man tried to use his debit card, but it was declined. That's when police say the man pulled out a large kitchen knife and demanded money from the clerk. If you know this man or have any information about the crime you are asked to contact Windsor Police.

8/06/10: News 8 at 5pm - :25

"West Haven Murder Suicide"

West Haven police say two officers and two dispatchers have lost their vacation time after they may have blown a response to what turned out to be a murder-suicide. Police say 42-year old Selami Ozdemir shot and killed his wife...25-year old Shengyl Rasim and then turned the gun on himself. Police say Rasim called 911 while her husband was banging on the door. However, he left before officers got there. Police say the officers never went looking for him. They say he went back to the home later and committed the crime. A police report also shows one of Ozdemir's employees called 911 to tell police he was on his way back to the house. However, officers were never notified.

8/19/10: News 8 at 6pm - 1:00

"Norwalk Crime"

Norwalk has been plagued with a string of gang-related murders. But the department says it is making progress ... and cracking down on the recent rash of violent crimes. News 8's Crystal Haynes on the scene in Norwalk with details on what's happening to make the streets safer. This is the corner where Amos "AJ" Brown Jr. was found dead in a black sedan. Today, police say they know what happened, how it happened and they've got a lot of evidence, but they wouldn't say who is responsible at a press conference today but what they did say was they were making head way in other cases.

September:

9/01/10: News 8 at 5pm - :15

"Cold Case Arrest Norwich"

A Connecticut man already charged with killing a woman in Waterford.. is now charged with murder in a 1998 cold case. Police arrested Dickie Anderson this morning in the murder of Michelle Comeau. Her body was found dumped along the side of road in Norwich. Anderson is already behind bars charged with the 1997 murder of Rene Pellegrino of Waterford. DNA linked him to the crime and lead to his arrest back in June. He's being held on three and a half million dollars bail.

9/15/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :15

"Bridgeport Kidnapping"

More trouble for a Connecticut man accused of kidnapping and stabbing his estranged wife after he didn't show up for court. 39-year old Eric Stiggle is accused of the crime in Bridgeport and used a bail bondsman to post his bond of more than a million bucks. When he didn't show up in court yesterday a judge ordered him rearrested. Police caught up with him at a home in Norwich.

9/20/10: Good Morning CT 5am - :35

“Cheshire Home Invasion”

There is a new delay in the Cheshire Home Invasion trial because the judge is sick. The trial against suspect Steven Hayes was going to resume today until New Haven Superior Court Judge Jon Blue checked into Yale New Haven Hospital last night. He was listed in fair condition Sunday night and no details on why he was admitted are being released. Hayes and Joshua Komisarjevsky are charged in the 2007 murders of a Jennifer Hawke-Petit and her two daughters Hayley and Michaela. Testimony is set to resume now on Wednesday.

Consumer Issues:

July:

7/09/10: News 8 at 12pm - :30

“Chrysler & Ford Recall”

New at noon ... Two recalls to tell you about... that may involve the car you are driving. Chrysler is recalling about 22-thousand SUVs because of a problem with brake tubes that could lead to a loss of brake fluid. The recall affects certain 2010 Dodge Nitro, Dodge Ram, Jeep Liberty and Jeep Wranglers. Meantime... Ford is recalling more than 30-thousand Transit Connect vans. The problem is with some pins that are holding the 'liners' above the driver's head. It turns out they don't meet federal standards. For more information, log on to wtnh-dot-com.

7/13/10: Good Morning Ct 6am - :25

“Salsa Illness”

A warning about salsa and guacamole this morning... Federal health officials say the Mexican favorites have become causes of foodborne illness. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says nearly one out of every 25 restaurant-associated outbreaks with identified food sources between 1998 and 2008... were traced to contaminated salsa or guacamole. The reason, the experts say...those dips often contain diced raw hot peppers, tomatoes and cilantro -- all implicated in disease outbreaks.

7/20/10: News 8 at 5pm - :20

“Pottery Barn Recall”

Parents listen up. All Pottery Barn Kids drop-side cribs are being 'voluntarily' recalled. The reason - the drop-sides can come off-- when the hardware holding them-- breaks. That could creating a space where a child can get stuck and suffocate. Stop using the cribs immediately... contact Pottery Barn Kids for a kit to correct the problem. About 82-thousand cribs are part of this recall. For more information .. go to our website- wtnh dot com.

7/26/10: News 8 at 5pm - :30

“McDonald Toy Danger”

A 4 year old boy-- from the New London-Ledyard area -- was 'nearly' strangled with a McDonald's Happy Meal toy. Now -- the state's Consumer Protection Commissioner wants the item -- a bracelet from "the last Airbender Katara" toy--pulled. Apparently-- the boy had placed it around his neck-- and started to lose consciousness. But his mother stepped in before anything else could happen. Commissioner Jerry Farrell Jr. wants-- the U-S Consumer 'Product' Safety Commission-- to take quick action. A McDonald's spokesperson says the company is looking into the incident.

August:

8/25/10: Mews 8 at 5pm - :30

"Rite Aid Investigation"

The state has hit Rite Aid pharmacies with a subpoena over a discount drug program. The state Department of Consumer Protection is investigating price hikes in the company's prescription discount program in Connecticut. The attorney general says Rite Aid falsely blamed higher prices on changes in state law. The state department of consumer protection says those price hikes only happened at Rite Aids in Connecticut.

8/28/10: Good Morning Ct 5am - :25

"Ford Van Recall"

Heads up if you drive a Ford Windstar. The automaker is also recalling..... 575-thousand of its older models...From 19-98 to 2003. The recall only covers vanssold in states where heavy road salt is used on snow. That *does* include Connecticut and other New England states. Ford says rear axles on the vans can corrode and possibly break. The company will start notifying owners about the recall starting on September 27th.

8/29/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :25

"Rising Drug Prices"

The drug industry is facing some hard questions about the rising cost of prescription drugs. This after the A-A-R-P said the average retail price of medications popular with older Americans has jumped by the largest amount in five years.... even as the overall inflation rate fell. The A-A-R-P looked at the 217 brand-name drugs used most by older Americans. The average retail cost of those medications rose 8.3 percent in 2009. The Pharmaceutical industry is calling the AARP report distorted and misleading ...because they did not include cheaper generic drugs which account for 75% of all prescriptions. But the A-A-R-P says, for most of the drugs they survey, such as Lipitor, there is no generic version available, because they are still under patent.

September:

9/01/10: Good Morning CT 5am - :15

'Egg Problem'

Federal agents are once again checking out those two Iowa egg farms at the center of the nationwide salmonella outbreak and massive egg recall. FDA investigators were back at Wright County Egg and Hillandale Farms Tuesday -- one day after ending their investigation into the conditions of the farms. No word on whether this new investigation is the first step in a criminal probe.

9/13/10: Good Morning CT 5am - :15

"License Lookup"

There's a new way to check up on THE CREDENTIALS OF Electricians, plumbers, doctors.. and other professionals in our state. The state Department of Consumer Protection has launched a new Online Licensing look-up tool. The list includes more than 100 job categories. That website is [elicense-dot-ct-dot gov](http://elicense-dot-ct-dot.gov).. or you can log onto our website.. and we'll give you the link.

9/15/10: News 8 at 5pm - :30

"Chuck E. Cheese's Recall"

An important recall for parents you'll want to pay attention to this if you've been to Chuck E Cheese lately. More than one million 'light up' rings and toy eye-glasses from Chuck E Cheese are being re-called because kids might swallow the small batteries inside. The toys can break

which could expose the batteries. So far one child has swallowed a battery and another kid put one up his nose. If you have one of these toys bring it back to Chuck E Cheese for a refund.

Government, Economy, & Law

July:

7/01/10: Good Morning Ct 6am - :50

“Build America”

New this morning, Connecticut's workers are urging the federal government to pour more money into Connecticut's roads and bridges. Safety is part of it but they say that will also help create jobs. The Connecticut Laborer's District Council says there are 1400 structurally deficient bridges in the state, and labor leaders will be out here in front of this one later this morning to kick off a campaign to let everyone know about them. This comes just two weeks after a bridge in Naugatuck collapsed, injuring a construction worker. The Salem Bridge was rated poor at its last inspection, which is why it was being torn down and replaced. The DOT says the reason for collapse was a problem with the demolition, not a problem with the bridge's structure. But the union leaders say a third of the state's bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete, and 60 percent of Connecticut's roads are rated less than good condition by the federal government. The unions are launching a campaign called Build America 2010 to raise public awareness about infrastructure problems and to pressure public officials to do something about them. They say Connecticut's infrastructure has fallen behind, and that threatens the state's economic competitiveness.

7/04/10: Good Morning Ct 5am - :25

“Rel State Aid”

Good news for struggling families across the state trying to make ends meet. Yesterday, Governor Jodi Rell announced Connecticut will receive 34 million dollars in Federal Aid for needy families. The money will help families with housing, utility payments, and job assistance. Rell says the economy continues to take its toll on families. To find out more information about the assistance program... you can go to [wtnh dot com](http://wtnh.com).

7/16/10: Good Morning Ct 5am - :45

“NH Lobster Hearing”

Tempers flare up during a hearing on a proposed five year ban on lobster fishing in New England. It drew a packed crowd-- standing room only at the Sound school in New Haven last night. The lobster stock was depleted because of pesticides and other environmental factors and fishermen say the moratorium will kill the industry. Some suggested the government a focus on predatory fish and lower the number of traps. They something should have been done 10 years ago when the die off began. A decision is expected by November.

7/30/10: News 8 at 5pm - :30

“Slowed Recovery”

There are new concerns about the economy tonight. The commerce department revealed economic growth slowed in the second quarter. Cutbacks in consumer spending and companies' investing heavily in OVERSEAS equipment are being blamed. The government says the Gross Domestic Product--or the total goods and services produced in the country-- did grow in the second quarter - but less than expected.

August:

8/03/10: News 8 at 5pm - :25

"Tax Cuts Expire"

The weak economy is setting up a fierce political battle in Washington over what to do with the Bush tax cuts that are set to expire December 31st. The tax cuts which went into effect in 2001 and 2003 reduced income tax rates across the board. President Obama and most democrats want to roll back the cuts for the wealthy ... the five percent of Americans making more than 250-thousand. They want to keep the tax cuts for the other 95-percent. Republicans argue that is still a tax hike. The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office says extending all of the Bush tax cuts would cost three trillion dollars in lost revenue over ten years.

8/16/10: News 8 at 11pm - :25

"AFL CIO Convention:

The event kicked off today at the Hilton Hotel in Hartford. Jobs and the economy of course are a big theme at the labor convention. Some of the local candidates running for office... including the Democratic nominee for Governor Dan Malloy... were presenting their ideas before the crowd today. The Republican nominee for Governor Tom Foley was also among those addressing the crowd. The AFL-CIO is expected to announce it's endorsements tomorrow.

8/27/10: News 8 at 5pm - :20

"New Haven Grants"

The city of New Haven is applying for 3 federal grants in an effort to boost the local economy. City officials say the grants would help create new job opportunities for residents. Authorities say the funds would be poured into housing roadway and other construction initiatives.

September:

9/05/10: Good Morning Ct Weekend - :25

"Car Fuel Cell Ratings"

The next time you buy a new car you could see the grade it gets for fuel efficiency, right on the showroom window sticker. A new government proposal would add letter grades to the stickers on new cars and trucks. This would reflect overall fuel economy and greenhouse gas emissions.

9/21/10: Good Morning Ct 6am - :25

"FDA Modified Salmon"

For the first time ever... the government is considering whether to market a genetically engineered fish as safe for people to eat. The FDA is holding two days of hearings on a request to market genetically-modified salmon. Supporters say the fish is fast growing... tasty and safe. Ecologists worry the altered salmon would overwhelm wild fish and take over. The FDA won't decide on the matter until at least November.

9/22/10: Good Morning CT 6am - :35

"Obama/Economy"

Voters worried about the economy have the White House in overdrive this morning. The administration is sending the popular First Lady out on the road... and shaking up the President's Economic team. The person who leads the President's daily economic briefing is leaving after the midterm-elections. National Economic Council director Larry Summers will return to Harvard. But the White House says the move is not unexpected. Former President Bill Clinton suggests talking points for Mr. Obama asking voters to give Democrats two more years to work on the economy before making quick changes.